

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/779,821

Examiner

Mark Blouin

Applicant(s)

KIM ET AL.

Art Unit

2627

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 8/30/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,4-7,9,10,12-15 and 17-24 (renumbered 1-20)
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                      |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____    | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                               |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|  | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

## Detailed Action

### *Response to Amendment*

- The reply filed on August 30, 2006 was applied to the following effect: Claims 1,9,10, 12 and 13 have been amended, and Claims 8 and 11 have been cancelled.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

1. All relevant rejections have been withdrawn as being satisfied.

### *Reasons for Allowance*

2. Claims 1,2,4-7,9,10,12-15, and 17-24 (renumbered as 1-20) are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

This application is for an optical disc drive and disc holder.

- **Claim 1** specifies an optical disc drive and disc holder, which requires:

*"...the disc holder is connectable to the spindle motor by a magnetic force therebetween, to be rotated by the spindle motor, and the disc holder comprises an engagement portion recessed inwardly at a side surface of the disc holder, and the tray comprises: a guiding portion having an opening formed at a side thereof, and elastic arms at the opening, to prevent the disc holder from escaping from the guiding portion through the opening, wherein the engagement portion is engageable with the guiding portion, and the disc holder is insertable into the guiding portion through the opening."*

These features, in combination with the other features of Claim 1, are not anticipated by, nor made obvious over, the prior art of record.

- **Claim 15** specifies an optical disc drive and disc holder, which requires:

*"...a fixing member having hooks elastically joinable to the clamping hole of the disc so as to fix the disc to the disc holder, wherein the first member is a ring-shaped member having an outer ring and an inner ring, and a plurality of projections are projected toward the inner side of the inner ring."*

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These features, in combination with the other features of Claim 15, are not anticipated by, nor made obvious over, the prior art of record.

- **Claim 19** specifies an optical disc drive and disc holder, which requires:

*“...a fixing member having hooks elastically joinable to the clamping hole of the disc so as to fix the disc to the disc holder, wherein a lower portion of the second member has an insertion hole into which a rotatable shaft of a spindle motor is insertable.”*

These features, in combination with the other features of Claim 19, are not anticipated by, nor made obvious over, the prior art of record.

- **Claim 21** specifies an optical disc drive and disc holder, which requires:

*“...a fixing member having hooks elastically joinable to the clamping hole of the disc so as to fix the disc to the disc holder, wherein the first member and the second member are insertable into the opening from the upper side and the lower side of the tray, respectively.”*

These features, in combination with the other features of Claim 21, are not anticipated by, nor made obvious over, the prior art of record.

- **Claim 23** specifies an optical disc drive and disc holder, which requires:

*“...a first member and a second member, and a fixing member having hooks elastically joinable to the clamping hole of the disc so as to fix the disc to the disc holder, wherein the fixing member is joined to a boss projecting from the second member.”*

These features, in combination with the other features of Claim 23, are not anticipated by, nor made obvious over, the prior art of record.

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- **Claim 24** specifies an optical disc drive and disc holder, which requires:

*“...a disc holder joined to the opening, and **magnetically joined to the spindle motor** and rotated by the spindle motor when the tray is loaded, wherein the disc holder comprises: **a first member and a second member, and a fixing member having hooks elastically joinable to the clamping hole of the disc so as to fix the disc to the disc holder.**”*

These features, in combination with the other features of Claim 24, are not anticipated by, nor made obvious over, the prior art of record.

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

5. The closest prior art is Tamayama (JP 06-068574) but does not show a disc holder joined to the opening, and magnetically joined to the spindle motor and rotated by the spindle motor when the tray is loaded, wherein the disc holder comprises: a first member and a second member, and a fixing member having hooks elastically joinable to the clamping hole of the disc so as to fix the disc to the disc holder.”

### ***Conclusion***

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark Blouin whose telephone number is 571-272-7583. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 6:00 to 3:30 pm.

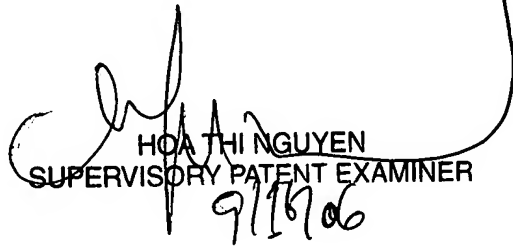
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hoa Nguyen, can be reached on 571-272-7579. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Mark Blouin  
Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 2627  
September 5, 2006



HOA THI NGUYEN  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
9/11/06